



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SAUNDERS.

ALEXANDRIA:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 1, 1858.
New of the Day.

"Toshow the very age and body of the Times."

In Washington, great preparations are made for the assembling of Congress, which will be on the 8th inst. Hotel and boarding-house keepers are actively engaged in making arrangements to accommodate the numerous mass of visitors who will soon be flocking to the Metropolis.

At the grand reception extended on Friday last to Mr. Peter Cooper, the founder of the Cooper Institute, in New York, by the children and teachers of the public schools of the city, numbering nearly two thousand, that gentleman delivered an address, which, for brevity, sound sense, and genuine eloquence, has rarely been excelled.

The London Watchman announces the death of the Rev. John Hocking, the "oldest Methodist preacher in the world," and the last survivor of the "John Wesley." He died on the 9th of November, in the seventy-first year of his ministry and would have been ninety-three years old had he lived three weeks longer.

Among the achievements in New York, of the past week, was the detection, by policeman Reid and his assistants, of the spoils of a party of burglars who had robbed the store of Mr. C. M. Robart, on Broadway, of about ten thousand dollars' worth of silks. The officers are now on the track of the robbers.

The celebrated automaton Chess-player, which created so much interest some years ago, laid for some time neglected in an old lumber room in the city of New York; and is believed to be now in the possession of a gentleman living in Philadelphia. Its day has gone by and it is now only interesting as a relic of the past.

So important a place as the Assistant Doorkeeper of the Senate—a snuggery, however, of \$1,800 a year—attracts very earnest competition. A vacancy occurred recently, by the death of Mr. Holland, an old and respected officer, and already there is a score of applicants seeking it, as now but the keen scent of this class, know how to seek.

A dancing party at Woodard's Hotel, in West Point, Vermont, was lately unceremoniously broken up during the upper hour, by the burning of the hotel—the dancers of both sexes being hustled out in such a hurry that they were unable to save from the flames their hats, bonnets, shawls or overcoats.

The Fire-Witch, a light draft steamer of 1,250 tons burden, intended for the navigation of the Chinese rivers, was successfully launched at New York, on Monday, from the shipyard of Thomas Collier. She is a draw only eight feet of water. This is the fourth vessel built by Mr. C. for use in China.

Resolutions have been introduced in the North Carolina legislature instructing the senators and representatives in Congress from that State to use all proper means to obtain the establishment of a national foundry at the coal fields in Deep river.

The late meeting of the New York State Temperance Society at Albany, did not disclose a very encouraging condition of affairs. It was admitted that drunkenness was increasing in the State. The establishment of an asylum for inebriates was regarded with favor, and the society reprobated the whole temperance system. A reorganization of the temperance societies of the State was also urged.

The Seaboard in the mountains and rugged vicinity of Newburg, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, are making preparations to celebrate the birth day of Robert Burns, on the 25th day of January. The settlement is composed almost exclusively of intelligent Scotch people, and the anniversary of their own poet's birth day, is always a great occasion with them, a sort of Fourth of July.

Mr. Charles Cist estimates the population of Cincinnati at nearly 250,000. "A general impression exists that the city has lost ground for some years past, especially since the recent commercial and financial disasters." The statement of our population in 1853 conclusively shows that up to that date we maintained at least our usual progress.

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The proposition of Dr. Thomas H. Backler to fill up the Baltimore Basin and docks to a line continuous with Jones' Falls, to the Federal Hill, and to extend all the intervening streets over the new ground thus reclaimed from the harbor, if not a success, is at least a sensation, in Baltimore.

Notwithstanding the stern lesson recently taught to the Indians in Oregon by the government troops, another union of the hostile tribes is apprehended; and accordingly a council of war has been called by Gen. Harney to concert measures for a new campaign.

In Washington Territory the Indians are again becoming troublesome; while in Northern California a battle has taken place between a portion of the S. S. militia and the Indians, in which the latter were defeated, with the loss of several of their warriors.

The "groaning" at the late Democratic Meeting in Richmond, gives great offence to the friends of Mr. Leitcher, in several of the counties. The Daily Register says:—"It was no doubt quite easy and natural for the Wise party to 'groan,' as the Governor threatened in his campaign of '55, that he would make the people 'groan.'"

Mr. Daney has introduced in the North Carolina legislature a bill to do away with the provision of the constitution which excludes Jews from holding office in the State.

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The directors of the Virginia and Kentucky Railroad have selected Abingdon, instead of Bristol, as the eastern terminus of that work.

The New York Times of Friday, devotes three pages to the sermons delivered the day previous (Thanksgiving Day) by the most eminent preachers of that city.

The subject of an international bridge across the Niagara river is agitated and discussed among the people of Buffalo.

Earthquakes at St. Ubes and other parts of Portugal have done considerable damage to property.

The lottery business is again commanding the attention of the authorities of New York. We learn from the Journal of Commerce that Sergeant Berney, the officer who distinguished himself by breaking up the bogus lottery, has been on a tour of observation and consultation in those States where lotteries are legalized under existing charters. The Journal of Commerce says:—"Some of the lotteries are conducted on a gigantic scale. One of them expends about \$200,000 yearly in advertising and other expenses, draws over 600,000 tickets, and issues tickets to the amount of \$200,000,000 yearly."

A man named John Halpin has been found guilty and condemned to a year's service in the Ohio penitentiary for having stolen and killed a heifer belonging to H. J. Reed. It turned out that Mr. Reed's heifer was neither stolen nor killed, for a day or two ago, it was found alive and healthy, thus proving that poor Halpin had been wrongfully condemned. So fortunately, he had not been sentenced to a new trial was granted to him, upon which the indictment was quashed and the man released.

Thomas O. Larkin, one of the oldest of the pioneer citizens of California—a man of great wealth, and distinguished for many excellent traits of character—died on the 27th ult., after a brief illness, at his house in San Francisco, in the 57th year of his age. He was born in New York, as early as 1832, and was appointed United States Consul, to reside in Monterey, in 1844. He was married in 1838, and his children are the first of American parentage, paternal and maternal, born in California.

A negro woman, known as "Black Cooky," a native of Africa, who was freed from slavery some years since, and has been living for some years past in a small cabin near Dixon, in Illinois, was burned to death on Friday last. While she was in a spasm her coat took fire, and she perished in the flames. She was an *untutored and uneducated* slave, the oldest person in the State, and probably as old a person as can be found in the United States.

The young Englishmen, Lords Grosvenor, Cavendish and others, four in number, who went up to Red River on a buffalo hunting expedition, some months since, are weather-beaten at the Red River settlements. They are anxious to get out of the scrape in which the ardor of their inexperienced youth has entangled them, but will have to wait until snow falls in sufficient depth to make the road practicable, when they are coming down on dog trails.

For the last four years, says the Ottawa, Illinois, Free Trader, a man calling himself Dr. Ashkenazi, Hungarian physician, and claiming to have been a surgeon in the patriot army in 1848, has been living in that city. He had been getting along prosperously until a few days since, when a woman claimed he was her lawful wife. She had followed his tracks, for twenty years, over Europe and America, and at last, caught him!

The two murderers, James McCormick and Theo. Mulroe, who were sentenced to the hang at Haverstraw, New York, on the 16th of December for murder, and who escaped from the Rockland county jail some two weeks since, have been recaptured near Newcastle, Westchester county, and taken back to the Rockland county jail. The sentence of the law will be executed on the above day, in the yard of the Court House at Haverstraw, in Rockland county.

The Honolulu Commercial Advertiser of October 7th., contains a letter from the Rev. H. Bingham, missionary at Apian, Kingdom of Hawaii, giving an account of a battle which took place on that island on the 19th of February. An army of savages, in one hundred canoes, came over from Tarawa, (Kororua island,) and the Apians went forth to meet them, on the flats, at low water. The king of both islands and many of the savages were killed.

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CONGRESS will be in session now, in a few days. It is by law, a "short session"—and it ought to be a business session. It is feared, however, that "Kansas" or "Slavery," in some of their phases, will still be dragged up for debate, and—waste of time. The Tariff matter cannot well be postponed. The National Intelligencer is quoting Gen. Jackson's well known opinions in favor of a "judicious" tariff, and its constitutionality, in order to impress upon those who "swear by Gen. Jackson," that they need not fear they will go astray, if they vote for a "judicious tariff" now.

The Louisville Journal says that nothing but a union of the opposition can defeat the Democracy in 1860—and that neither Mr. Seymour, nor any other "Republican" can unite the opposition. It adds, that "the Whigs and Americans of the nation can never co-operate with the Republicans, as such.—The thing is politically impossible. It is folly to talk or think of it."

The temper in which the late settlement of the difficulty between France and Portugal, is received in the latter country, may be learned from the speech of the King of Portugal at the opening of the Cortez. He says:—"A serious misunderstanding arose between my government and His Majesty the Emperor of the French, in consequence of the capture of the French ship Charles de Gaulle in the waters of the Mozambique. The question being taken from the field of right in which my government sought to maintain it, and having exhausted the resources in which the letter of treaties authorized it to have recourse, I was obliged to cede to the pre-emption of the delivery of the vessel and the liberation of her captain. All the documents relating to this deplorable conflict will shortly be laid before you, and upon their examination I hope you will approve the proceedings of my government and relieve it from the responsibility it was forced to incur."

Some of the Washington letter-writers not content with giving what the President's Message is to contain, are actually narrating, with all gravity, the proceedings of the Cabinet meetings, at which the Message was read and commented on!!

"The Sociable, or One Thousand and One Home Amusements," is the title of a new work just published by Messrs. Dick & Fink, of No. 18 Ann Street, New York. We have looked the volume through, and are really surprised at the catalogue of innocent and pleasing home amusements it describes. They are adapted to all ages, to both sexes, to every taste, to each disposition. It may be called a complete and perfectly exhaustive treatise for the Household. The index gives a complete catalogue of acting, dancing, table, and parlour games; of games of action, science in sport, or home-made; of music, mental and mechanical puzzles; &c., &c., all illustrated with engravings and diagrams. With a book like this no family need ever look for amusement. Received and for sale at the bookstore of James Estlin & Son, King street.

The Electoral College. The following figures show the vote of the next Electoral College, in case Oregon and Kansas are admitted:—

Free States. No. Votes. Slave States. No. Votes.
Maine..... 3 Delaware..... 3
New Hampshire..... 3 Maryland..... 8
Massachusetts..... 10 Virginia..... 10
Vermont..... 3 North Carolina..... 10
Rhode Island..... 3 South Carolina..... 8
Connecticut..... 5 Georgia..... 5
New York..... 36 Florida..... 5
New Jersey..... 7 Alabama..... 7
Pennsylvania..... 27 Mississippi..... 9
Ohio..... 13 Louisiana..... 6
Indiana..... 13 Texas..... 4
Illinois..... 11 Tennessee..... 12
Michigan..... 10 Kentucky..... 12
Wisconsin..... 6 Arkansas..... 4
Iowa..... 4 Missouri..... 9
Minnesota..... 3
Total, 15 Free States, 120
Total, 15 Slave States, 120
Total, 30 States, 240
According to the late elections for Congress, the following States have given popular majority for the Republicans:—

Indiana..... 13 Ohio..... 23
Iowa..... 4 Pennsylvania..... 27
Maine..... 3 Vermont..... 3
Michigan..... 10 Wisconsin..... 5
Massachusetts..... 10 Illinois..... 11
New York..... 36
Total..... 157

Three more than would be necessary to a choice, with scarcely a doubt that New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Kansas will add their eighteen votes to the number.

From Washington. WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—It is stated by a gentleman particularly interested, that while a recommendation will be made to Congress for a nullification of the tariff, with a view to increase the revenue, the means by which this should be effected will not be designed by the Secretary of the Treasury. The subject is already agitated in political circles as to whether there shall be a specific instead of an ad valorem duty.

A letter brought by the steamer Quaker City says that a number of Niagara river adventures had landed about forty miles from San Juan del Sur, and recent private advices from the San Juan state that those who were prevented from going out in the El Estero, or have made arrangements to reach Niagara by some other conveyance.

Congress will be officially informed that the late disturbances in Washington and Oregon have resulted from the neglect to ratify the various treaties concluded with the Indian tribes in these Territories.

Singular Accident. HENRY A. BAIRD.—The Watkinson Journal says that the engineer of the train from London to a few days since, while crossing "Hulton Bridge," near Antwerp, observed the singular spectacle of a man laughing from one of the beams thereof. The train was stopped and the matter looked into.—The man had evidently been dead but a little while. It was inferred that the man, while crossing the bridge, with the strap of his carpet bag around his neck, and feeling the bag on the other. The bag balanced the man, and the strap being strong and firm, and in this singular position he fell. There was no clue about that indicated his name or home. He appeared to be a poor wayfarer.

First Protestant Worship in Japan. A description of this interesting service has already appeared. A correspondent of the Boston Traveller mentions the following particulars as worthy of note. The Scripture lesson read was the first chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, descriptive of the moral character of heathenism and idolatry, and the hymns sung were those commencing,

"Welcome sweet day of rest!"
"We'll greet a day of rest!"
"From all that dwell below the skies!"
—New York Commercial.

Three Days Later from Europe. ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER EUROPA.

HALIFAX, Nov. 29.—The steamer Europa, from Liverpool on the 20th instant, arrived here this afternoon. The Saxonia arrived on the 19th.

The news is meagre. There had been no tidings of the Indian Empire. Frederick Bruce, a brother of Lord Elgin, had been appointed Minister to Pekin.

France was engaged in sending reinforcements to Cochinchina. Count Persigny had been appointed President of the French Commission to consider the subject of negro slavery.

Robert Owen, late Minister to Naples, is dead. The new Great Eastern Steamship Company had been duly organized. £140,000 more would be required to finish her.

The French frigate Neoplyde had been lost near Cadix. The French gunboat Rome said that all the great Catholic Powers had addressed remonstrances to the Pope, and requested the release of the Jewish boy Mortara. The Pope had replied that the boy's return to his parents was impossible.

The Indian mails had reached England. The ex-King of Delhi was sent under escort to Calcutta. An explosion occurred at Kurrachee arsenal, blowing up a portion of the building and destroying at least a million pounds of ammunition.

The Arago brought upwards of two hundred passengers, among whom were Pauline Pascal, bearer of the Japan treaty; Rev. Dr. Hinton, bearer of despatches from Rome; H. Germain, French Vice Consul at New Orleans; and bearer of despatches from Paris; Messrs. Senator Gwin, Hon. Wm. Aiken, and Bishop Davis, of South Carolina.

Liverpool, Nov. 19.—Cotton for the week closed steady, at an advance of 1/4, principally on middling qualities; sales 58,500 bales; holders offered freely, but showed no disposition to press sales. Speculators took 4,500 bales, and exporters, estimated sales today 8,000 bales including 1,000 to speculators and exporters. The following are the closing quotations: Fair Orleans 7 1/2, middling 7 1/2, fair Mobiles 7 1/2, middling 7 1/2, fair Uplands 7 1/2, middling 7 1/2. Stock in port 332,000 bales, including 247,000 of American. The Havre cotton market for the week closed at 108 francs for the ordinary.

Headstuffs were dull. Flour very dull, but steady. Wheat dull but quiet. Corn very dull at all quotations. Provisions closed with a declining tendency.

Bullion in the Bank of England had increased £135,000. Money was easy. American securities were in improved demand. State stocks slightly higher. Railroad securities quiet.—Consols 92 1/2.

A Canal Propeller. The new steam canal propeller arrived in this city on Tuesday evening, from New York, with a cargo of 115 tons of pig iron, having made the trip from Troy since Tuesday night of last week. The steam canal boat Niagara is built on the same principle as the Ohio Canal. The propeller is on the rudder, and is worked by a universal joint. The Niagara is a canal boat that has been running on the Erie canal for some time, and is now being used for the purpose of carrying pig iron.

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Letter of Gov. Wise to the Pittsburg Celebration.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 9, 1858. Gentlemen—I regret that it will not be in my power to unite with the citizens of Western Pennsylvania, in celebrating the 25th inst., the Centennial Anniversary of the Capture of Fort Duquesne.

The site of Fort Duquesne is associated with great events in our history, and especially with the life and action of George Washington. His youthful observation marked it as a place of great power, not only in war, but in peace. Late in his most prophetic vision he looked to its connection with the Potomac, in its links to the Nation. It was to be a point, in transit, of commerce from the North and Northwest, and the Capes of Virginia were to be the great pillars of Hercules to the gate of American Commerce with the World. To this end, he began the improvement of his own mighty River of Swans, and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was the beginning of the great work.

At this point, I am now, let me call your attention to the fact that another great company, of the James River and Kanawha Canal, in whose great work Washington was an co-laborer, for Pitt, such a Washington contemplated, in a way which experience and true science and time alone could discover. Mr. Ellet, the Engineer of the Kanawha River improvement, has boldly and judiciously provided to hold the mighty floods in reservoirs of civil engineering, and to give them out beneficially to navigation the year round; to save, in the seasons of droughts, to swell our rivers to a depth that shall our produce to market; to prevent inundation in times of flood, and scarcity of water in dry times; to change climate itself by retaining evaporation at home, and to use the waters themselves at the highest level of canal to cut their channels out faster than with the power of steam or pickaxes and spades.

This programme of improvement is first, I am proud to announce to you, to be applied to the Great Kanawha, and it must ultimately be applied to the upper Ohio. The great reservoirs for the Ohio must be found in a circle not larger than the Kanawha territory, where the Monongahela, the Elk and the Gauley rivers rise in the Allegheny mountains in the centre of Virginia. In this noble enterprise be carried out, and it succeeds, Fort Pitt may set a thousand more anvil ringing, and send her boats up and down stream all the seasons of all the years of ages until the clouds of Heaven shall fall.

I invite your attention to the report of Charles Ellet, to the Board of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company, as the greatest conception of material improvement I know of in the last quarter of a century; and, as appropriate to the interests of Pittsburg, on your coming Celebration, I give you it.

The great celebration, I give you it. In Ellet's plans of internal improvement—not by Congress, but by Pennsylvania and Virginia. Yours, truly, HENRY A. WISE.

Illinois Legislature. In the Senate of Illinois, the following resolutions, introduced by Senator Douglas, are pending. They embody Mr. Hearn's platform:

Resolved, That we affirm the original and essential identity of the negro.

Resolved, That we deny that the negro was intended to be embraced within the abstractations of the right of freedom, and equality was predicated only for the dominant race of white men.

Resolved, That we deny that negroes are citizens of the United States.

Resolved, That we affirm the compatibility of a confederacy of free and slave States, and the possibility of their harmonious co-existence under a common constitution.

Resolved, That we affirm the absolute sovereignty of the States, in respect to their domestic institutions, and deny the authority of the Federal Government to discriminate for or against the interests of slavery.

Resolved, That we desire to inculcate a policy of non-interference as between the free and slaveholding States, as well as between the latter and the Federal Government.

Resolved, That we support the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, and in the sense that it guarantees to the owners of slave property, introducing it into the territory; contending, also, that slave property is placed on an equal footing with other property, if, like all other property, most be subject to all such local laws of the territories, as do not infringe upon the Constitution of the United States; that slave property being thus placed on an equality with other property, if it requires higher and further affirmative legislation for its protection and security than is afforded to other property and the legislation of the territory should decide not to discriminate in its favor to that extent, then the failure to obtain that higher protection than is afforded to other property, is a manifest injustice.

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